

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system adapted to send a set of ordered packets to a destination, the system comprising hardware and software configured to:
address a first packet of the ordered set of packets with a first destination identifier that identifies the destination;
address a second packet of the ordered set of packets with a second destination identifier that identifies the destination, but is different from the first destination identifier;
and to
cause the first and second packets to be transmitted.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein each of the set of ordered packets is an IP packet, and the provided identifiers are IP addresses.
3. The system of claim 2 wherein the hardware and software is also configured:
address a first packet of the ordered set of packets with a first source identifier;
address a second packet of the ordered set of packets with a second source identifier that is different from the first source identifier.
4. The system of claim 3 wherein at least some of the provided source identifiers do not identify the system.
5. A system adapted to send a set of ordered packets to a common destination, the system comprising hardware and software configured to:
address a first packet of the ordered set of packets with a first source identifier;
address a second packet of the ordered set of packets with a second source identifier that is different from the first source identifier.
6. The system of claim 5 wherein each of the set of ordered packets is an IP packet, and the provided identifiers are IP addresses.

7. The system of claim 6 wherein at least some of the provided source identifiers do not identify the system.
8. The system of claim 7 wherein none of the provided source identifiers identify the system.
9. The system of claim 8 wherein the set of ordered packets include the contents of a single message or file subdivided for transmission via the set of ordered packets.
10. The system of claim 9 wherein each packet of the ordered set of packets comprises an identifier pair that includes both the source identifier and destination identifier of the packet, and each packet of the set comprises a unique identifier pair.
11. The system of claim 10 wherein the system is also adapted to send at least some dummy packets which are not part of the set ordered packets while sending the set of ordered packets.
10. The system of claim 11 wherein the system is adapted to send the dummy packets by providing the dummy packets with destination identifiers that do not identify any system.
12. A method of sending a set of ordered packets to a destination comprising:
 - associating a set of destination identifiers with a destination;
 - providing a set of ordered packets to be sent to the destination;
 - assigning each of the ordered packets a destination identifier from the set of destination identifiers wherein at least two packets of the set are assigned different destination identifiers;
 - sending the packets.
13. The method of claim 12 further comprising:
 - associating a set of source identifiers with the a source system;
 - assigning each of the ordered packets a source identifier from the set of source identifiers wherein at least two packets of the set are assigned different source identifiers;

causing the source system to send the packets.